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Daily Eastern News: April 27, 2018

Eastern Illinois University

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DOUBLEHEADER

The Eastern softball team had a chance to rebound against non-conference opponent Illinois Wednesday, but it lost its fourth straight game.

PAGE 8



SPRING SEASON

Our assistant sports editor talks about three things the football team learned this past semester

PAGE 7

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Friday, April 27, 2018

“TELL THE TRUTH AND DON’T BE AFRAID”

VOL. 102 | NO. 151

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF COVERAGE

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Board to vote on tuition increase, athletic budget

Staff Report | @DEN_News

The Board of Trustees is set to vote on a tuition increase and the FY18 athletic budget at its meeting 1 p.m. Friday in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Per state law, tuition for current undergraduate Illinois resident students remains the same for four continuous academic years. Present tuition for FY18 students is \$289 per semester hour. If passed, FY19 new

students would see an increase of \$3, paying \$292 per semester hour.

Non-residents would have a 5 percent increase, going from \$365 for FY18 students to \$370 for new FY19 students.

Regarding the athletic budget, according to regulation IV.J.2.b of the Board of Trustees, up to 1.5 percent of the university’s annual state appropriation can be used to support athletics.

Board approval is needed when these expenditures

exceed that number. In FY18, per the board report, the amount of appropriated dollars used to support athletics is projected as 1.6 percent of the state appropriation.

The total budget appropriated and income fund revenue is \$78,567,300. The total athletic budget allocated from appropriated and income fund revenue is \$1,300,000.

Also on the agenda is a Renewable Energy Center Settlement between Eastern and Honeywell. The Re-

newable Energy Center Settlement would resolve all “outstanding issues and claims, legal and otherwise, amicably and without assignment of fault or liability to any party,” according to the report.

The university will receive \$3,250,000 and would not be required to pay any amounts on the outstanding balance of the contract, which is \$1,754,989. The university would also be released from its obligation to pay \$7,574,971 as provided in the Energy Services Agreement.

Board, page 5



JORDAN BOYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tristan Farris (center), works the fire hose with the help of the Charleston Fire Department.



JORDAN BOYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tristan Farris (center), is pictured here with police officers from multiple departments and the Charleston Fire Department. Sgt. Jimmy Williams (left) organized the whole event as a suprise for Tristan.



JORDAN BOYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Charleston Fire Department let Tristan Farris play in the fire engine Tuesday night outside of the Doudna Fine Arts Center. Before this, Tristan got to play in a police car and play with the sirens.

Local child named honorary UPD officer

By Analicia Haynes

Managing Editor | @Haynes1943

Following a line of police cars with their red and blue lights flashing, 7-year-old Tristan Farris sat in the backseat of his parent’s car Thursday night before parking in the University Police Department parking lot.

Jumping out of the car wearing Aviator sunglasses and his own police officer uniform with an Eastern Illinois University Police Department patch on his

sleeve, Tristan was welcomed by several police officers and firefighters, including University Police Sergeant Jimmy Williams, who got him the uniform.


Tristan and his family did not know it at first, but he was being named an honorary police officer Thursday night by the UPD.

After Tristan was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia in February, his parents Natasha and Edward Applegate said he lost hope.

Honorary, page 5


Local weather

FRIDAY



SUNNY
High: 67°
Low: 40°

SATURDAY



OVERCAST
High: 56°
Low: 32°


THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”


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State and Nation

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Federal agency says it lost track of 1,475 migrant children

Federal officials lost track of nearly 1,500 migrant children last year after a government agency placed the minors in the homes of adult sponsors in communities across the country, according to testimony before a Senate subcommittee Thursday.

The Health and Human Services Department has a limited budget to track the welfare of vulnerable unaccompanied minors, and realized that 1,475 children could not be found after making follow-up calls to check on their safety, an agency official said.

Federal officials came under fire two years ago after rolling back child protection policies meant for minors fleeing violence in Central America. In a follow-up hearing on Thursday, senators said that the agencies had failed to take full responsibility for their care and had delayed crucial reforms needed to keep them from falling into the hands of human traffickers.

Since the dramatic surge of border crossings in 2013, the federal government has placed more than 180,000 unaccompanied minors with parents or other adult sponsors who are expected to care for the children and help them attend school while they seek legal status in immigration court.

An AP investigation found in 2016 that more than two dozen unaccompanied children had been sent to homes where they were sexually assaulted, starved

or forced to work for little or no pay. At the time, many adult sponsors didn't undergo thorough background checks, government officials rarely visited homes and in some cases had no idea that sponsors had taken in several unrelated children, a possible sign of human trafficking.

Since then, the Health and Human Services Department has boosted outreach to at-risk children deemed to need extra protection, and last year offered post-placement services to about one-third of unaccompanied minors, according to the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

But advocates say it is hard to know how many minors may be in dangerous conditions, in part because some disappear before social workers can follow up with them and never show up in court.

From October to December 2017, HHS called 7,635 children the agency had placed with sponsors, and found 6,075 of the children were still living with their sponsors, 28 had run away, five had been deported and 52 were living with someone else. The rest were missing, said Steven Wagner, acting assistant secretary at HHS.

Republican Sen. Rob Portman gave HHS and the Department of Homeland Security until Monday to deliver a time frame for improving monitoring.

"These kids, regardless of their immigration status, deserve to be treated properly, not abused or trafficked," said Port-

man, who chairs the subcommittee. "This is all about accountability."

Portman began investigating after a case in his home state of Ohio, where eight Guatemalan teens were placed with human traffickers and forced to work on egg farms under threats of death. Six people have been convicted and sentenced to federal prison for their participation in the trafficking scheme that began in 2013.

The hearing comes as the Trump administration has called for amending a law to allow the government to send more migrant children back to their home countries more quickly if they are not at risk of trafficking. The administration also is pushing to terminate the settlement of a class-action lawsuit that ensures unaccompanied minors are housed in the "least restrictive" setting, preferably with their parents or other adult relatives, while they await hearings in immigration court.

Last year, the administration announced it would begin arresting sponsors who had hired smugglers to bring their children into the U.S., a move that sent a shudder through immigrant communities nationwide.

HHS is re-examining its interpretation of existing laws to explore whether the agency is legally responsible for children after they have been released from its placement program, said Steven Wagner, an acting assistant secretary at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Illinois nurses to receive required sexual assault courses sooner

CHICAGO (AP) — A new amendment to proposed Illinois legislation would require hospitals to train nurses in sexual assault care by 2021.

A previous draft of the proposal gave hospitals until 2023 to have a specially trained medical provider present within 90 minutes of a sexual assault patient's arrival, The Chicago Tribune reported .

The new timeframe to implement the changes may be too short, according to David Gross, senior vice president of government relations for the Illinois Health and Hospital Association.

"Many of our hospitals will not be able to meet this deadline," he said during a Wednesday hearing before the House Human Services Committee. "We just don't think the math works."

The state's 160 hospitals that perform sexual assault exams would need to train about 650 nurses, Gross estimated. Training can take up to 18 months and the grueling course can cause burnout, he said.

Nurses are taught how to conduct genital exams, record injuries and ask questions that do not add to a patient's

trauma. Someone without training can behave in a way that may make a patient feel guilty or doubted. The evidence that trained nurses collect can also bolster a prosecution against an offender.

The legislation would also require hospitals that treat pediatric sexual assault patients to give physicians and nurses in the emergency department at least two hours of sexual assault training annually.

The newspaper's investigation found that few of the state's registered nurses undergo such training.

Comedian convicted of sexual assault over a decade later

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Bill Cosby was convicted Thursday of drugging and molesting a woman in the first big celebrity trial of the #MeToo era, completing the spectacular late-in-life downfall of a comedian who broke racial barriers in Hollywood on his way to TV superstardom as America's Dad.

Cosby, 80, could end up spending his final years in prison after a jury concluded he sexually violated Temple University employee Andrea Constand at his suburban Philadelphia mansion in 2004.

He stared straight ahead as the verdict was read but moments later lashed out loudly at District Attorney Kevin Steele after the prosecutor demanded Cosby be sent immediately to jail. Steele told the judge Cosby has an airplane and might flee.

Judge Steven O'Neill decided Cosby can remain free on \$1 million bail while he awaits sentencing but restricted him to Montgomery County, where his home is. No sentencing date was set.

Cosby waved to the crowd outside the courthouse, got into an SUV and left without saying anything. His lawyer Tom Mesereau declared "the fight is not over" and said he will appeal.

Shrieks erupted in the courtroom when the verdict was announced, and some of Cosby's accusers whimpered and cried. Constand remained stoic, then hugged her lawyer and members of the prosecution team.

"Justice has been done!" celebrity attorney Gloria Allred, who represented some of Cosby's accusers, said on the courthouse steps. "We are so happy that finally we can say women are believed."

The jury of seven men and five women deliberated 14 hours over two days.

The verdict came after a two-week retrial in which prosecutors had more courtroom weapons at their disposal than they did the first time: They put five other women on the stand who testified that Cosby, married for 54 years, drugged and violated them, too.

At Cosby's first trial, which ended in a deadlocked jury less than a year ago, only one additional accuser was allowed to testify.

Steele said Cosby "was a man who had evaded this moment for far too long."

TODAY ON CAMPUS

IHSA Tournament: State Journalism Finals | 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Buzzard Hall

More than 350 of the top high school journalists in Illinois will compete on site in 17 categories for individual and team bragging rights in the annual contest.

Graduate Student Advisory Meeting | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM | MLK Jr. Union

Open to any and all currently registered EIU graduate students to discuss, review, and participate in any university decision that may impact graduate students.

Day of Silence, Night of Noise | 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM | Campus Pond

Chat with the Chair | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM | The Globe Studio

Hosted by J. Kevin Doolen.

Asian Heritage Month Event: A Choral Montage | 7:30 PM | Doudna Recital Hall



BROOKE SCHWARTZ | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Nathan Atkinson, a web developer in the Center for Academic Technology and Support, presented his online course proposal at the Council on Academic Affairs meeting Thursday afternoon in Booth Library. Atkinson said he has been working on the online form for years, and after some minor changes the council hopes to start implementing its use.

CAA looks at online submission proposal

By Brooke Schwartz
Administration Reporter | @brookesch_wartz

The Council on Academic Affairs met for the last time of the semester on Thursday, where it discussed a new proposal format and elected positions for next year. Nathan Atkinson, a web developer in the Center for Academic Technology and Support, showed a program he has been working on for years, which would allow the council's course proposals to be submitted in an online form. "It's essentially a workflow where a faculty member could submit a course proposal form, and then it goes to the department, then to the college, then to CAA," Atkinson said. With some changes, Atkinson and the council hope to start using the form in the upcoming year. The positions for chair and vice chair/recording secretary for the upcoming year

were voted on at the meeting. Marita Gronnvoll, associate chair of the communication studies department, was voted to be the chair of CAA next year, and Richard Wilkinson, a family and consumer sciences professor, was voted to continue on as vice chair for next year with the added role of recording secretary. Next year, the council will continue looking into alternative course proposal plans, as well as start looking at implementing a shared governance model. The council will go into the next year with suspended bylaws, with plans to reinstate them after the restructuring of the university is finalized. The council has been operating under suspended bylaws ever since its secretary left so a voting member could act as the recording secretary.

Brooke Schwartz can be reached at 581-2812 or at bsschwartz@eiu.edu.



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Riley Baxter, a fifth grader at Dieterich Elementary School, high fives a police officer after earning gold in the 800 meter during a past Special Olympics event. This year's games are set to begin 7 a.m. Friday at O'Brien Stadium.

Eastern to host Special Olympics

By Makayla Digan
Contributing Writer | @DEN_News

Over 300 Eastern students are set to volunteer at this year's Special Olympics, scheduled to begin 7 a.m. Friday at O'Brien Stadium. Eastern has been hosting the Area 9 Special Olympics for 36 years now, though it was canceled last year because of rain. "It is always a very special day," said Kathlene Shank, the chair of the special education department. Shank said Special Olympics is a day of celebration, when individuals with disabilities compete in varying events. Its motto is "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." Cole Hoover, a sophomore special education major, will be participating

in Special Olympics for his second year in a row. "The athletes have different races, wheelchair and running," Hoover said. "There's a softball throw and a broad jump. I usually do the softball throw." For athletes, there is always a sense of 'new' when it comes to the Special Olympics, Shank said. "Some compete in events that they have not attempted before. Some win, or get a second or third, when they have not finished this high before," Shank said. "For the athletes, each Special Olympics is a 'new' special day." This year, Eastern has 323 students who have volunteered to help out at the Special Olympics. "Students from many differing majors from across the university are joining special education majors and other education majors to make this a special

day," Shank said. Liz McPherson, a senior special education major and co-chair of volunteers, said her favorite part of the Special Olympics is the feeling she gets walking in. "The stadium is filled with hundreds of volunteers, families, coaches and students who are all there for one reason: the athletes," McPherson said. McPherson said there has been a lot of community support for the Special Olympics. "The community involvement of EIU and Coles County is the reason why organizations like this are so strong," McPherson said. "Without community support, there would be no event."

Makayla Digan can be reached at 581-2812 or mmdigan@eiu.edu.

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Almost there...



JALEN MASSIE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sean Says: DEN, Thanks for the memories

Sunday is my last night at *The Daily Eastern News*.

When I was applying for an internship after my freshman year of college, I remember looking up to my editor at the time, Aldo Soto, and writing in my cover letter that I wanted to be the Sports Editor of the DEN by my senior year.

I was able to get the job by my sophomore year.

At first, I just wanted to be the one that, in a way, was leading the sports section of *The Daily Eastern News*. And while that has been fun while it has lasted, I know that is going to end Sunday night when we publish our final edition, which I hope you read. But I hope the friendships I have made do not end.

I had no idea what I was doing my sophomore year trying to be an editor of a paper that I barely got to know my freshman year. I was freaking out, trying to cover my volleyball beat and trying to make the sports section as good as it could be.

And one person who has been on the ride with me this whole time has been Maher Kawash, who has done countless things to help me out in Eastern sports coverage.

The staff was small and all brand new, but I figured this freshman, Maher,



Sean Hastings

worked hard enough, so I put him on men's basketball, and he killed it as a freshman, covering the second biggest sport on campus.

And my junior year was where I met the rest of my little dream team, as we liked to call it. Mark Shanahan and Tyler McCluskey split assistant sports editor duties, while both maintaining excellent coverage on their respective beats.

Those two handled loads of work that I was unable to handle sometimes, and it was a shame to see them have to graduate last year.

And while she was not always totally available, living in Effingham, Kaitlin Cordes covered anything that needed to be

covered for the last three years. This year she wrote columns for the women's basketball team, which always went nicely with our game stories.

But senior year. Wow.

I cannot believe it is actually coming to an end.

Senior year was my favorite year working with my excellent coworkers and friends.

And our two sports photographers that shot countless games and were excited to hop on the job if they were asked (at least they seemed to be). Bryan Bund and Karina Delgado, I cannot thank enough for how they have helped me out in their time here.

Bryan came in last year and wanted to report, but there was not much available, so I sent him out to shoot the home opening football game, and he has shot everything under the sun since then.

He was a tireless worker who improved behind the camera immensely over the last year. And took some of the best photos I have come across.

And Karina, as a freshman, came in and shot basketball games right away, putting great photos in the DEN. And while she seemed to be super nervous about how photos were turning out or what to do exactly, she kept shooting and shooting and

took some great shots at these games.

I know these two will continue to fire off great content for the sports section.

Some of my most fun memories have come working with JJ Bullock, who was assistant sports editor, and Madison Antirim, the sports page designer.

Some nights, I do not know how we managed to make things work. Some of those late nights it would drive me insane, I would be stressed out, but I would really do anything to get some of this time back.

JJ could handle anything, from writing to editing or designing. Now, he is going to be sports editor next year, and I know he will do even better than what I was hopefully able to do.

Madison may not have known tons about sports, but she could put together some wicked designs that turned out incredible in the paper. I would throw some idea at her and a few minutes later it was somehow put together.

Sunday night is the last edition of *The Daily Eastern News* that myself and some of my best friends will put out, but it has been a great three years.

Thanks for some good years, guys!

Sean Hastings is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or smhastings@eiu.edu.

We're hiring Feeling a little left behind right now

If you are interested in writing, editing, taking photos or videos, producing content on social media or designing, we have a place for you. All experience levels and majors can apply. Just come down to 1811 Buzzard Hall or email deneic@gmail.com or cjbuchman@eiu.edu for more information or with any questions you may have.

Letters to the Editor:

Those interested can inquire at opinions.DEN@gmail.com or deneic@gmail.com for all opinion questions, submissions and letters to the editor. Please allow a week for us to publish letters to the editor. Letters that are 250 words or less will be prioritized, but longer ones can be published at the discretion of the editorial board.

Although this is my sixth semester at Eastern, sitting on the sidelines as I watch all of my older (it is still up for debate if they are in fact wiser) friends graduate has not gotten any easier. Not in the slightest.

These are the people that took me under their wings and showed me the ropes to making it through all aspects in college, from the classroom to the Charleston streets.

These are the people that made the pit of nervousness settling itself into the bottom of my stomach turn into butterflies full of excitement as I encountered every unfamiliarity and turned it into an opportunity. You know who you are, and I hope you know that the impressions you have left on me, and the memories you have made with me, will never fade.

With every semester that I have witnessed friends graduate and move out, it has set in much deeper that it will be my turn one day. Except this time around, this realization has welcomed more nostalgia because I will be in their same position this time next year.

There never really seems to be enough time. Especially college time.

There is no point in our life where we will experience anything quite like college time, which I define several ways:



Carole Hodorowicz

1. A comfortable bubble of 4 or more years where we are mostly surrounded by people trying to accomplish the same things as us: pass, party and not piss off our parents too much.
2. A dance between certainty and uncertainty prompted by decisions involving what majors to choose, what classes to take, which assignment or test to prioritize over the other, what organizations to join, what people to surround yourself with, which low quality pizza place to settle for, etc.
3. A stage in our lives where we are not expected to be adults yet, but we are not treated like children; our mistakes can be pulled off as lessons to learn, our friends are only a short walk down the hall, and our youth makes us feel invincible.

If you're reading this and you're a freshman, consider yourself lucky. You are told this time and time again, but this time will fly by and you will not be able to get it back. This freedom does not come often and does not last long. Spend as much of this time you have with the friends you have made here and making as many mistakes as you can before the real world starts expecting things from you.

If you're reading this and you're in the same situation as me, we have one more year of college time to spend and we better spend it wisely. Keep surrounding yourself with people who make the scared and nervous freshman you were when you got here feel like a stranger. Tie up all the loose ends you still find yourself with during your last year in your own way and your own way only.

If you're reading this and you're a senior, congratulations. I hope you can look back at how you spent your college time without feeling like you needed any more than what you were already given.

And if you're a sophomore, you're the middle child when it comes to these kinds of sappy things: forgotten. Enjoy your time coasting through the halfway point before reality hits.

Carole Hodorowicz is a junior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or at cdhodorowicz@eiu.edu.

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Biology Awards



JORDAN BOYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Billy Hung (front), a biological sciences professor, and Cassie Berlin (back) a junior biological sciences major, push supplies on a cart Thursday evening outside of the Doudna Fine Arts Center. They were taking supplies to the 7th Street Underground in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union to set up for the Biology Scholarship Award Event.

The New York Times
Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0323

- ACROSS**
- 1 Island nation with a cross on its flag
 - 6 Series installments, for short
 - 9 Unit of energy: Abbr.
 - 13 Had, as food
 - 14 Secure
 - 16 ssorcA-41?
 - 17 Edwin of 1960s-'70s R&B
 - 18 Cop's station in England
 - 20 Sweet farewell
 - 22 Given to picking fights
 - 23 States of confusion
 - 24 Part of the English translation of "Notre Dame"
 - 25 Part of Act 4 of "Antony and Cleopatra" in which Antony attempts suicide
 - 28 Islamic spirit
 - 31 Things rested on, metaphorically
 - 32 Bollywood actress Mukerji
 - 33 Scottish John
 - 34 Agricultural commune
 - 37 How a package may arrive
 - 38 Lady in Arthurian legend
 - 40 One with a big mouth in Africa?
 - 41 Corporate giant named for a mountain
 - 43 Make some definite plans
 - 45 "Interesting ..."
 - 46 Spares, maybe

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

R	I	F	T		S	H	A	P	E		M	I	R	A
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- 47 Dishonest sort
- 50 Beauty lesson
- 54 One for whom a flash in the pan is a good thing
- 55 Title woman of a classic 1928 André Breton novel
- 56 Ronald Reagan ___ Medical Center
- 57 Where bills pile up
- 58 Trap until it gets warmer, say
- 59 Grey Goose competitor
- 60 8-bit game console released in 1985
- 61 Wait on

- DOWN**
- 1 Hide
 - 2 Web developer?
 - 3 Something a shepherd may have on
 - 4 Twisting effect
 - 5 Alternative music subgenre
 - 6 Like some tanks and promises
 - 7 "Oh, baloney!"
 - 8 One and only
 - 9 Ice cream holder
 - 10 Precisely
 - 11 Monitors
 - 12 ___ bike
 - 15 Superlative for a cake
 - 19 Jackie of "Rush Hour"


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59						60				61			

PUZZLE BY ERIK AGARD

- 21 Letters associated with WNYC and KQED
- 25 Shade of black
- 26 Mötley ___
- 27 "Livin' La ___ Loca"
- 28 Is mortified, so to speak
- 29 Transgender rights activist and best-selling author of "Redefining Realness"
- 30 At the outset
- 31 End piece?
- 35 Dressed up, maybe
- 36 Crease smoothers?
- 39 Trying time
- 42 Warmly welcome
- 44 Judge
- 45 Search engine result
- 47 Rolls up
- 48 Where to get down from?
- 49 One of the Gandhis
- 51 Titular professor in a Nabokov novel
- 52 Rhyming prefix with novela
- 53 "Stay in your ___"
- 54 Gloomy one

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FOOTBALL | OPINION

3 things learned in spring football

By JJ Bullock
Assistant Sports Editor | @DEN_Sports

1. The quarterback position is open, but there may be frontrunners.

Four quarterbacks competed in spring camp for the Panthers and in the eyes of the Eastern coaching staff, four quarterbacks still have a chance to be the starter against Arkansas in the season opener.

There was redshirt-sophomore Scotty Gilkey Jr., who started in five games for the Panthers last season, proving to be a reliable option at quarterback during a season where the Panthers were riddled with injuries at the position.

Joining him in camp as a familiar face was red-shirt-freshman Jaylon Banks. Last season he was a member of the scout team and struggled to move the ball down the field in Eastern's spring football game.

Both Banks and Gilkey Jr. will be given the same amount of reps and opportunity to start next season, but it was two transfer quarterbacks who set themselves apart in spring camp and may be the favorites to win the starting job.

Tulane transfer Johnathan Brantley already separates himself from the other quarterbacks with his speed and ability to create plays outside the pocket, something the Eastern coaches knew he would do before spring camp. But, Brantley also showed off his arm talent. In the spring football game Brantley was 11-of-13 passing with 103 yards and two touchdowns.

Brantley showed in spring football he is ready to compete on the field. However, his spot in the quarterback race could very well depend on how fast he learns the new offense.

Coming into Eastern already knowing the offense, Navarro Junior College transfer Harry Woodbery stepped into the quarterback battle already with a leg up on the other players. He played in new offensive coordinator Scott Parr's offense at Navarro. On top of already knowing the playbook, Woodbery played very well in spring camp.

Possessing arguably the strongest arm of all the quarterbacks, Woodbery put that on display in the spring football game. He was 17-of-27, passing with 198 yards and was responsible for throwing the Panthers' other two touchdowns in the game.

Eastern also has quarterback Qua Gray coming in next season as a freshman from Texas. He threw for 60 touchdowns as a senior in high school and could add yet another interesting dynamic to the quarterback battle.

Gilkey Jr. is big, a strong runner and familiar with the team and Banks is untested and waiting to make his mark. But based on the performances in spring football, Woodbery and Brantley may be out front in the job race.



Redshirt senior Aaron Gooch runs up the field in Eastern's spring practice April 4 at O'Brien Field. Eastern's offense showed signs of getting the new offense to click and the defense continued to be solid just as it was last year.

2. The new offense is not perfect yet, but it is coming.

Head coach Kim Dameron said before the spring football game that he did not expect the new, fast-paced offense, to be running on all-cylinders yet, and he was right. At times during the game and practices there were lapses or miscues in the offense, as to be expected when a new system is put in place, but when the offense showed glimpses of what it can be, it looked good.

During the spring game, Eastern had some long pass plays and an option run, all being run very fast, that showed what can happen when the air-raid offense clicks. But there was also a fumble on

the first play and some missed passes down the field that displayed it still is not 100 percent ready.

Woodbery has been helping the other quarterbacks get a hang of the new offense, assisting them with signals, play-calling and offensive line communication.

3. The defense is still good.

It is not exactly news, but the Eastern defense, which carried the struggling offense last season, is still good in its second season with defensive coordinator Cary Fowler.

Even with injuries in the secondary and at the defensive line, the defense still won the spring

football game by a score of 34-27 and had the offense on its toes for most of the game.

The linebacking core is something that coaches have been impressed with all spring and the spring game showed why. Sophomore linebacker Dytarious Johnson finished with nine tackles and one sack and sophomore linebacker Austin Johnson finished with six tackles and one fumble recovery.

The defense finished with seven total sacks in the game.

JJ Bullock can be reached at 581-2812 or jpbullock@eiu.edu.

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SEAN HASTINGS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Eastern softball team celebrates sophomore Mia Davis' walk-off hit that scored Ashley Bartlett Saturday against Tennessee Tech. The Panthers play a pair of road doubleheaders against Murray State and Austin Peay this weekend.

Panthers set for 2 doubleheaders

By Sean Hastings
Sports Editor | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern softball team had a chance to rebound against non-conference opponent Illinois Wednesday, but it lost its fourth straight game.

Win or lose, it was not going to hurt Eastern in the OVC standings, but losing the lead late again was not part of the plan.

But this weekend, with four OVC games scheduled, rebounding is a must. The Panthers have a pair of road

doubleheaders against Murray State and Austin Peay.

Having dropped six out of their last eight, the Panthers dropped to 8-6 overall and sixth place in the OVC standings. They were the No. 1 team in the conference starting 6-0, but Eastern Kentucky has seven in a row to push its record to 11-1 and take over the top spot in the conference.

Jacksonville State, which beat Eastern twice last weekend, is in second with a 13-3 record.

And Eastern's second opponent of

the weekend, Austin Peay, is 10-4 and third in the OVC.

The Panthers will be tested with this year's OVC win leader, Morgan Rackel.

She leads the OVC with 16 wins, and is third in the OVC with a 1.61 ERA, just behind senior Jessica Wireman in strikeouts with 163.

Murray State, however, has not had the same luck as the Governors as it is 6-10 this season.

The Racers also have not had the same success pitching that the Gov-

ernors have had. Haven Campbell is the Racers' No. 1 pitcher with a 2.89 ERA and 116.1 innings pitched.

Campbell has pieced together a 9-9 record and 67 strikeouts.

There are two weekends left of the OVC regular season before the OVC Tournament, where the top eight teams make it.

First pitches for games are set for 1 and 3 p.m. for both days.

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Baseball team hosts Morehead State

By Maher Kawash
Baseball Reporter |
@DEN_Sports

The Eastern baseball team has found its stride offensively, and will try to keep it going against some tougher Ohio Valley Conference competition.

The Panthers host Morehead State for another three-game series starting Friday at 3 p.m., and it comes at a solid time considering Eastern is fresh off back-to-back double-digit run games.

Eastern notched its second win in a row with a 15-6 win over Robert Morris Tuesday, and now junior Tyler Jones will try to keep that going for the Panthers as he takes the ball in game one.

While the scoring has been a pleasant surprise in the past two games, it is the pitching that has kept the Panthers in games.

Jones has played a big role in that as he will head into this matchup with a 4-3 record and a 3.12 ERA.

He is coming off his roughest start of the season though after giving up six runs in 6.2 innings pitched against Eastern Kentucky last weekend.

Sophomore Alex Stevenson will follow in game two on the mound and he has been up and down throughout the season.

Stevenson comes in with a 6.17 ERA and 2-6 record with the most recent outing coming in a loss.

The sophomore pitched 4.1 innings against Eastern Kentucky last weekend while allowing four runs on six hits.

The Panthers' offense will be the story in this one as they have struggled against OVC opponents as of late.

The team mustered just five runs combined in the Eastern Kentucky series.



SEAN HASTINGS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior Jimmy Huber hits a double off the right field wall to drive in Joe Duncan to make the score 9-0 in the second inning in Eastern's 15-6 win Wednesday at Coaches Stadium. The Panthers have a three-game series this weekend with Morehead State at home.

But Eastern has taken a turn in the last two with 29 runs combined, and the home run ball has been the biggest reason for that.

Guys like senior Dougie Parks and senior Hunter Morris have brought some power to the line up with home runs in those games.

Morris especially had the big bat against Robert Morris as he knocked out a grand slam, and he leads the team with 42 RBIs on the year.

Senior Joseph Duncan has done his

thing on the base paths, and he just became the all-time leading Panther in steals with his 52nd coming on Tuesday.

Redshirt junior Josh Turnock will head into the weekend with some momentum as he has batted .346 this season.

That Eastern lineup will go up against two right-handed pitchers this weekend, and then Morehead State puts a lefty on the mound in game two.

All three of the Morehead State pitchers come into the series with ERAs above 4.00 though.

This marks the beginning of six straight OVC games for the Panthers as another three-game set will follow against Tennessee-Martin on the road starting May 4.

First pitch Friday against Morehead State is at 3 p.m. with games two and three following on Saturday and Sunday as the Panthers try to improve on their 15-25 record.

Maher Kawash can be reached at 581-2812 or mwkawash@eiu.edu.

Men's golf finishes season in 11th place

By Kaitlin Cordes
Men's Golf Reporter | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern men's golf team closed out the season with an 11th-place finish at the Ohio Valley Conference Championships Wednesday.

Sophomores Romeo Perez and Marcello Verdolin tied for 49th as both golfers shot for 243 on the 54-hole course. In the final round of the tournament Wednesday, Perez shot an 80 while Verdolin totaled 81.

Perez was ranked 15th in the tournament overall for birdies as he tallied seven.

Freshman Sebastian Olrog boasted the best showing for Eastern in the final round with a 79. He ranked 55th in the field with a 54-hole score of 260.

Junior Charlie Adare and senior Alex Gowin also tied in the tournament in the 51st position. Each golfer finished 54 holes with a score of 246. Adare shot an 85 while Gowin posted a final round of 82.

Wednesday was a bright spot in the tournament for the Panthers after the team struggled to gain its footing in round two on Tuesday.

Eastern's second round was led by Perez and Verdolin, but the two fell in the rankings from 37th in the first round to 50th and 51st in the second round.

Adare was the Panthers' star on Tuesday as he posted the most successful 18-hole round among his teammates. He shot an 81 to put him at 49th place heading into the final round.

Second to Adare was Gowin, who carded an 83 to slide into 52nd place. His 36-hole total sat at 164 Tuesday.

In round one of the conference tournament, Eastern shot a team score of 315 and stood one stroke behind Murray State. Jacksonville State led in team scoring in all three rounds of the tournament.

Verdolin and Perez emerged as the team leaders in round one, a feat repeated on Tuesday. Both golfers shot rounds of 77.

Adare posted a round of 80 to take 48th place while Gowin trailed by just one stroke for 49th place. Olrog tied for 54th place after round one. He shot a round of 87.

Perez ended the season as Eastern's top golfer. He averaged 77.5 per round and shot just six over par typically. He had the lowest stroke count on the season with 1,861.

Jacksonville State also went on to win the tournament by five strokes over Eastern Kentucky. Nick Wilkins of Morehead State was the individual conference winner after he defeated Belmont's Jack Uselton in a three-hole playoff; both players shot 216 for the tie.

This was Jacksonville State's second-straight OVC Championship win and the Gamecocks' seventh overall conference championship.

Eastern will lose just one player as Gowin will be graduating this year. The team will mostly be comprised of upperclassmen with no word yet on potential incoming players.

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